PUBLIC SERVICE BUREAU TREE MAINTENANCE POLICY

Introduction

The purpose of this Tree Maintenance Policy is to provide guidelines to administer Section 14.28 of the Long Beach Municipal Code, to preserve and protect the urban forest, and to promote the health and safety of city trees, from the time they are planted through maturity.

Guidelines are included for planting, maintenance, and removal of street trees located in the public rights-of-way (parkways and median islands).

This policy is intended to be used as a reference by City staff, citizens, and private contractors for tree-related decisions in the public rights-of-way in the City of Long Beach.

Tree Planting

The Public Service Bureau of the Department of Public Works is responsible for all tree plantings in city parkways, medians and rights-of-way.

Trees to be planted should be on the Approved Street Tree List (Attachment A), and must be appropriate for the specific planting site.

If a property owner wishes to plant a tree on an adjacent parkway, he/she shall request and complete a Permit to Plant Street Trees (Attachment B) from the Public Service Bureau. The no-fee permit and the Approved Street Tree List will be sent to the requester. As part of the completion and approval of the permit, the property owner shall agree to bear all costs and liability associated with the planting(s), and ensure that any contractor used is licensed by the City. Property owners shall also be responsible to water and fertilize the tree to ensure its healthy growth.

Trees planted without a permit that are considered undesirable (not on the Approved Street Tree List) will result in the property owner being required to remove and replace the tree with a tree on the Approved Street Tree List. Failure to comply will result in the removal of the tree by the City, at the property owner's expense, in accordance with Section 14.28.090 of the Long Beach Municipal Code.

Root barriers that limit hardscape damage from tree roots are required for street trees planted in tree wells or as noted on the Approved Street Tree list.

01/11/02

Tree Maintenance

There are over 50 varieties of street trees in the City of Long Beach. Each species requires different care; some trees require a two-year pruning cycle while others require an eight-year cycle. Immediate trimming may be required on some trees to protect public safety, while other trees are identified for trimming as time and resources allow. There are also a number of trees within the city that require special handling, for reasons including species, age, or location near buildings or power lines.

Each year City funds are budgeted for tree trimming services. The Public Service Bureau is responsible for trimming trees. Trims related to safety (tree limbs that interfere with safe passage of vehicles or pedestrians) are scheduled immediately. Other trims are scheduled as funds are available.

If a property owner wishes to have a parkway tree trimmed sooner than the City can schedule it, he/she may request and complete a no-fee Permit to Trim a Street Tree (Attachment C) from the Public Service Bureau. The property owner shall be responsible for the tree trimming and for all costs related to it, including clean up. A City-approved, licensed, bonded and insured contractor must do the actual trimming.

Work performed on any city tree must be done according to City specifications, which are based on criteria set by the International Society of Arboriculture, the National Arborist Association, and the American National Standards Institute. Trees shall be trimmed to encourage good development and preserve their health, structure and natural appearance. Topping, heading back, stubbing, lion tailing or pollarding is prohibited.

Root Pruning

The root system of a tree is one of its more important physiological components. Roots are the main source of water and mineral absorption for the tree; they provide anchorage and stability, and act as one of the principal storage areas for food.

Whenever possible, the City avoids removing any of the root system. Where there is a need to install subsurface structures or utilities, such as irrigation lines or block wall footings, every effort shall be made to avoid encroachment within the dripline of a tree. If it is necessary to excavate within a tree's dripline, every effort shall be made to tunnel under or through the tree's root system with a minimal amount of pruning, rather than to trench across the tree's roots. Any root over two (2") inches in diameter must be preapproved for removal by the Public Service Bureau.

01/11/02 2

If a property owner wishes to have his/her street tree root pruned at their own expense, he/she shall request and complete a no-fee Permit to Root Prune a Street Tree (Attachment D) available from the Public Service Bureau.

Root pruning on a street tree may only be performed by a City-approved, licensed, bonded, insured contractor, who has in its employment a Certified Arborist, accredited by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

Removal of Street Trees

The conservation of city trees, especially those in parkways, is a joint effort between the City and the adjacent neighbors. Property owners and/or their tenants are required to care for and properly maintain their parkway trees, and report any damaged or suspected diseased trees to the Public Service Bureau.

In general, the City will only remove, or allow removal of, a street tree if it is dead, dying, diseased, uprooted, damaged and in danger of falling, or where tree root-damaged sidewalks and curbing cannot otherwise be safely corrected. The City will not allow removal of a tree solely because of leaf, flower or berry debris.

Removal by City

Removal of a street tree at no cost to the adjacent property owner may be considered for the following reasons:

The tree is dead, dying, critically diseased or damaged beyond reasonable repair.

The tree is in danger of falling or uprooting.

There is a recognized danger of falling or dropping limbs, which combined with other factors such as disease or high winds, make corrective measures not cost-effective.

The tree is competing for light or space with adjacent trees that are more valuable because of their potential longer life, attractiveness, and/or more sturdy growth.

The tree is host to aggressive life-threatening disease or pests that threaten to spread to other trees.

01/11/02

The tree is in decline, and is estimated to have less than two years of life remaining.

Root pruning of the tree for hardscape repair would result in irreparable decline of the tree or the creation of a future hazard.

The tree is damaging vital infrastructure, such as a sewer line, water line, or gas or electrical conduit, or causing other major structural damage. (The property owner shall provide proof of such damage, verified with estimated repair costs by a licensed contractor.)

Convenience Removals – At Property Owner Expense

Removal of a street tree at property owner expense may be considered if the property owner agrees to all the applicable conditions outlined below. Property owners wishing removal of a parkway tree shall request and complete a no-fee Permit to Remove Street Tree(s) (Attachment E) available from the Public Service Bureau.

The property owner will pay all removal costs, including site cleanup, make any necessary repair of hardscape damage, and replace the tree. The tree must be replaced with an approved 24-inch box tree to be planted in an appropriate area of the parkway. The property owner will also pay for the equivalent of one (1) 15-gallon tree (approximate cost is \$75) to be planted elsewhere in the City. All fees collected for tree replacement will be placed in a designated Tree Fund, used solely for the enhancement of the community forest program.

The tree, stump and debris are to be removed by a City-approved licensed, bonded, insured contractor. If the sidewalk, curb and/or gutter or any infrastructure is damaged by the contractor while removing the tree (final conditions will be inspected by the City), the property owner agrees to have all damages repaired within forty-five (45) days after tree removal.

The property owner agrees to complete all permits, provide a bond for completion and secure a city-approved, licensed, bonded and insured contractor.

The property owner will contact any formally organized neighborhood association in writing, with a copy to the City, of his/her request to remove the tree.

The property owner will be responsible for notifying the City's Neighborhood and Historic Preservation Office if the tree is located within a designated historical area (Attachment G).

01/11/02 4

If a tree is being removed to accommodate repair of private property, all repairs must be completed 45 days after the removal of the tree. If the property owner fails to make repairs, the property owner will be assessed the full value of the tree based on ISA standards. The property owner will be required to replant a tree if the parkway space is available.

Removal of a street tree at property owner's expense will be considered for the following reasons:

To accommodate private construction projects.

For trees removed to accommodate private construction projects, the full-appraised value of the tree(s) must be paid to the City prior to removal. The value of the tree is derived from a formula developed by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), based on the size of the trunk measured at breast height, the species, the location, and the condition of the tree. The property owner shall be responsible for all removal costs.

Hardscape (curb, gutter and sidewalk) and/or private property repairs cost more than the monetary value of the street tree based on ISA standards.

Repair costs are based on the frequency of the repairs directly due to the species of tree, and the possible stability of the tree if root pruning was administered.

The property owner shall provide proof of such damage, including photographs, verified with estimated repair costs by a licensed contractor.

The tree is designated as a "Problem Tree Species" (Attachment F).

The tree is a direct cause of a medical problem.

The property owner shall provide written verification by a licensed medical physician prior to approval review.

The Director of Public Works or his/her designee is authorized to approve or deny all tree removal requests.

No work may be started until the Tree Removal Agreement is approved and all fees have been paid. Otherwise, the property owner may be assessed for the full value of the tree.

01/11/02 5

Tree/Hardscape Conflicts

The following guidelines have been established for correcting potentially hazardous situations that result from tree roots disturbing nearby hardscape.

Hardscape damage on public property may require a temporary asphalt ramp to be followed by permanent repair of the area as funds become available. All reported offsets/ deviations will be patched.

Hardscape damage on public property that creates a public safety hazard will be scheduled for repair, as funds are available.

Private Trees Obstructing Public Property

If a private tree, shrub, or other plant material causes a public hazard, a notice will be given to the property owner to remove the obstruction. Failure to comply will result in the obstruction being removed by the City at the property owner's expense.

Private Trees and Shrubs Damaging Public Property

If private trees or shrubbery cause damage to public property, including sidewalks, curbs, gutters, streets and alleys, repair of damaged areas is the responsibility of the abutting property owner. The property owner is required to obtain a Street Improvement Permit from the Engineering Bureau prior to making any repairs. If the property owner fails to make proper repairs, repairs will be made by the City at the property owner's expense.

Street Trees Damaging Private Property

If private property damage occurs as a direct result of a City tree, the property owner is responsible for filing a claim for damages with the City. Claim forms are available from the City Clerk Department or the City Attorney.

If the damage is on private property, and is not caused by a City-owned tree, the City is not responsible for damages or repairs.

01/11/02

APPROVED STREET TREES

Botanical Name	Common Name	Tree Cutouts/Narrow	Medium Parkways 4 feet - 6 feet	Parkways > 7 feet	Overhead Wire Problem?	a	Semi-deciduous	Evergreen	Semi-evergreen	Height (20 years)	Width(20 years)	Showy Flowers?	Fall Color?	Root Barrier Required?	eM	Potential Problems
Albiza julibrissin	Silk Tree		YES	YES	YES	Х				40	45	Х				mealy bugs, flower litter
Archontophoenix cunninghamia		YES	YES	YES				Х		40	20					fruit litter
	Cocos Palm	YES	YES	YES				Х		40	20					extensive fruit litter
Bauhinia variegai	Purple Orchid		YES	YES	YES				Χ	30	30	Х				flower litter, leaf burn, aphid
Callistemon citrinus	Lemon Bottlebrush	YES			YES			Х		25	20	Х				frequent pruning, nectar drip
Cassia leptophylla	Gold Medallion		YES	YES	YES				Χ	25	30	Χ			Low	large pods
Cinnamomum camphora	Camphor			YES				Х		50	55			Χ		verticulium wilt, concrete damage
Cupaniopsis anacardiodes	Carrotwood		YES	YES	YES			Χ		40	40				Med	seed drop
Eucalyptus nicholii	Willowleaf Peppermint		YES	YES				Х		40	30					flower/seed litter
Geijera parviflora	Australian Willow		YES	YES				Х		40	25					no significant problems
Ginkgo Biloba	Maiden Hair			YES		Χ				60	30		Χ	Χ		females have foul-smelling fruit
Hymensporum flavum	Sweet Shade	YES		YES				Χ		40	20	Χ			Med	brittle in wind
Jacaranda mimosifolia	Jacaranda		YES	YES		Χ				40	50	Χ		Х	Med	flower litter
Koelreuteria bipinnata	Chinese Flame			YES		Χ				50	50	Х		Χ	Med	flies and bees
Koelreuteria paniculata	Golden Rain Tree			YES	YES					25	20	Х		Χ	Low	flies and bees
Lagerstroemia indica	Crepe Myrtle	YES		YES	YES	Χ				25	20	Χ			Low	mildew
Liquidambar styraciflua	American Sweetgum			YES		Χ				60	35		Χ	Χ	Med-Low	spiny fruit balls, chlorosis
Liriodendron tulipifera	Tulip Tree			YES		Χ				80	40	Χ	Χ	Χ	Med-High	aphid, mildew/honey dew/tip moth
Magnolia grandiflora	Southern Magnolia			YES				Х		50	40	Χ		Х	Med	flower/seed litter
Pinus canariensis	Canary Island Pine			YES				Х		70	40			Х	Med	pine tip moth
Pittosporum undulatum	Victorian Box		YES	YES				Х		30	30				Med	sticky seeds, scale, aphid
Platanus acerifolia 'bloodgood'	London Plane			YES		Χ				60	40			Х	Med	mildew, mites
Podocardpus gracilior	Fern Leaf Pine		YES	YES				Х		50	50			Χ	Med-Low	fruit litter
Podocardpus macrophyllus	Yew Pine	YES			YES			Χ		40	30					fruit litter
Pyrus calleryana 'aristocrat'	Aristocrat Pear		YES	YES	YES	X				30	35		Χ			purple leaf spot
Quercus ilex	Holly Oak		YES	YES				Х		40	50	Χ		Χ	Low	California Oak worm. Acorns
Stenocarpus sinuatus	Firewheel Tree		YES	YES	YES			Х		25	15	Χ			Med	litter
Tabebuia avellanedae	Trumpet Tree		YES	YES	YES		Χ			30	30	Χ			Low	need rich, well-drained soil
Tabebuia chrysotricha	Golden Trumpet (ipe)		YES	YES	YES		Χ			25	25	Χ			Med-Low	need rich, well-drained soil
Trachycarpus fortunei	Windmill Palm	YES						Χ		20	10	Χ			Low	No significant problems
Tristania conferta	Brisbane Box		YES	YES				Χ		60	40			Х	Low	litter



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1601 San Francisco Avenue

! Long Beach, CA 90813

! (562) 570-2700

FAX (562)

PERMIT TO PLANT STREET TREES

(Please print in ink or type)

I,authorized business representative/a	do here	by request authorization of the City	of Long
		he public easement along the prop	erty at
atstreet name/address		_, In accordance with City specific	ations. I
will, within sixty (60) days	s of said request install	the current, authorized street tree:	
Botanical N)	_ Common Name	
ϑ I will be responsib	le for the planting of the	e tree(s).	
ϑ Organization/Con	tractor	License #	
I agree to water and fertil	ize the tree(s).		
Release and Hold Harmless Agree	ment		
and its elected and appointed boar including attorney fees, for injury to nature resulting therefrom, arising or or on behalf of property owner, or r	rds, officers, and employees from to or death of any person and for it to ut of or any way connected with the esulting from any violation by pro-	ect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of m any and all liabilities, expenses or damages of njury to any property, including consequential dan the negligent performance of this Permit by act or of the perty owner's agents, employees contractors, or it a safe place of employment for workers.	f any nature, nages of any omission, by
I have read the foregoing and agree	e to all of the conditions and crit	eria set forth above.	
Property Owner	Signature	Print	Name
CITY USE ONLY K Approved as requested K 15-gallon tree K Denied Comments		K Approved with exc K 24-inch box tree	eptions
01/10/02			

City Representative_	Date	



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1601 San Francisco Avenue ! Long Beach, CA 90813 ! (562) 570-2700 FAX (562) 570-2792

PERMIT TO TRIM STREET TREES

(Please print in ink or type)

I, do	o hereby request authorization of the City of Long
Beach to trim street tree(s)) within the public easement along the property at
street name/address	, In accordance with City specifications
Contractor	License No
Planned Start Date	Planned Finish Date
used to complete this project is licensed	he approved trimming project; and that the contractor by the City of Long Beach to do approved work. and by a certified tree trimmer based on City specifications; rofessional and on a timely basis.
Release and Hold Harmless Agreement	
its elected and appointed boards, officers, and employees attorney fees, for injury to or death of any person and for injury therefrom, arising out of or any way connected with the n	chall protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Long Beach and is from any and all liabilities, expenses or damages of any nature, including ury to any property, including consequential damages of any nature resulting negligent performance of this Permit by act or omission, by or on behalf of y owner's agents, employees contractors, or invitees or of any statute, law, lace of employment for workers.
I have read the foregoing and agree to all of the conditions	s and criteria set forth above.
I have read the foregoing and agree to all	I of the conditions and criteria set forth above.
CITY USE ONLY • Approved as requested Comments	• Denied
City Representative	Date



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

1601 San Francisco Avenue ! Long Beach, CA 90813 ! (562) 570-2700 FAX (562) 570-2792

PERMIT TO ROOT PRUNE STREET TREE(S)

(Please print in ink or type)

I,authorized business representative/abutting	do hereby request authorization of the City of Long
number	street tree(s) within the public easement along the property at
atstreet name/address	, In accordance with City specifications.
Contractor	License No
Planned Start Date	Planned Finish Date
contractor used to complete the work, and that the approved w	nnected with the approved root pruning project and that the his project is licensed by the City of Long Beach to do approved work will be performed by a certified tree trimmer based on City ork will be performed in a professional manner and on a timely
Release and Hold Harmless Agreement	
and its elected and appointed boards, off including attorney fees, for injury to or deanature resulting therefrom, arising out of or on behalf of property owner, or resulting from	is representative shall protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Long Beach officers, and employees from any and all liabilities, expenses or damages of any nature, ath of any person and for injury to any property, including consequential damages of any or any way connected with the negligent performance of this Permit by act or omission, by or rom any violation by property owner's agents, employees contractors, or invitees or of any uirement concerning a safe place of employment for workers.
I have read the foregoing and agree to all	of the conditions and criteria set forth above.
Property Owner Signature _	Print Name
CITY USE ONLY	~~
K Approved as requested	K Denied
Comments	
City Representative	Date

PERMIT EXPIRES 60 CALENDAR DAYS FROM APPROVED DATE



PERMIT TO REMOVE STREET TREE(S)

Data.

man	ne		Date:
Tree	e Address Mailing Address _		
City	/State/ZipCodeDaytime T	elephone	Number
_	eneral, the City of Long Beach will consider removal or a g, diseased, damaging vital infrastructure, or causing		
	City will consider allowing the property owner to remove d below, if the property owner agrees to all applicable		
Rea	sons for Convenience Removal		
Θ	To accommodate private construction projects.	Θ	The tree is designated as a "problem tree species."
Θ	Hardscape (curb, gutter and sidewalk) and/or private property repairs cost more than the monetary value of the tree. (Average value of a mature parkway tree is \$5,000 or more.)	Θ	The tree is a direct cause of a medical problem.

Conditions for Removal by Property Owner

The property owner understands and agrees to the following conditions for street tree removal:

The property owner will pay all removal costs, including site cleanup, make any necessary repair of hardscape damage, and replace the tree. The tree must be replaced with an approved 24-inch box tree to be planted in an appropriate area of the parkway. The property owner will also pay for the equivalent of one (1) 15-gallon tree to be planted elsewhere in the City (approximate cost is \$75).

The tree, stump and debris are to be removed by a City-approved, licensed, bonded, insured contractor. If the contractor while removing the tree damages the sidewalk, curb and/or gutter or any infrastructure, the property owner agrees to pay for all damages within 45 days after tree removal.

The property owner agrees to complete all permits, provide a bond for completion and secure a city-approved, licensed, bonded and insured contractor.

The property owner will contact any formally organized neighborhood association in writing, with a copy to the Gittop his/her request to remove the tree.

Attachment E (page 1 of 1)

The property owner will be responsible for notifying the City's Neighborhood and Historic Preservation Office if the tree is located within a designed historical area.

If the tree is being removed to accommodate repair of private property, all repairs must be completed 45 days after the removal of the tree. If the property owner fails to make repairs, the property owner will be assessed the full value of the tree based on ISA standards. The property owner will be required to replant a tree if the parkway space is available.

Property Owner	Information
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Repair cost estimate \$ (attack	ch copy of estimate)
Photograph(s) included? (yes no)	
Neighborhood Association contacted? (yes	_ no) Date Contacted
Name of Neighborhood Association	
Historical District? (yes no) Date (Contacted
Contractor Name	Contractor License No
Planned Start Date	Planned Finish Date
Release and Hold Harmless Agreement	
The undersigned property owner shall protect, defend, in and its elected and appointed boards, officers, and emplor damages of any nature, including attorney fees, for in property, including consequential damages of any nature connected with the negligent performance of this Permowner, or resulting from any violation by property owner any statute, law, regulation, or other legal requirement conhave read the foregoing and agree to all of the condition	oyees from any and all claims, liabilities, expenses, jury to or death of any person and for injury to any ure resulting therefrom, arising out of or any way nit by act or omission, by or on behalf of property 's agents, employees, contractors, or invitees or of oncerning a safe place of employment for workers. I
Property Owner Signature	Print Name
City Use Only	
Approved	Denied
Tree Species	Value \$
Comments:	
City Representative	Date

PROBLEM TREE SPECIES

Common Name

Siberian Elm

Ulmus pumila

Fig

Ficus

Carob

Ceratonia siliqua

Maple

Acer

Shamel Ash

Fraxinus uhdel

Fig, Carob and Shamel Ash are prone to cause severe hardscape damage.

Carob, Maple, Siberian Elm are prone to serious diseases and rot, creating the potential for hazardous branch droppage.

However, when planted in the proper environment, these trees can be ideal specimen trees; therefore, each "problem tree" will be evaluated on an individual basis.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION/ HISTORICAL DISTRICT NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION TO REMOVE STREET TREE

HOMEOWNER: Please complete and send to association/Historic Preservation Officer (333 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach CA 90801), with a copy to Street Landscaping, 1601 San Francisco Avenue, Long Beach CA 90813.

Association /District
Address
Tree Address
Property Owner Name
Mailing Address
City, State and Zip Code
Phone (Daytime) () (Evening) ()
The reason why I plan to remove the street tree located at the above address:
I plan to replace the tree with a 24-inch box (specie)
Estimated Start DateEstimated Finish Date
Date Mailed to Association

NOTE TO ASSOCIATION: Should you have any objections to the removal, please contact the Public Service Bureau, in writing. Send correspondence to Street Landscaping, 1601 San Francisco Avenue, Long Beach CA 90813 within five days of receipt of notification.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Boundaries

BLUFF PARK Junipero Avenue, Loma Avenue, Ocean Boulevard, 2nd Street

BRENNER PLACE One block district located east of Alamitos Avenue between 7th Street

and Hellman Street

CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS Wardlow Road, Bixby Road, Lime Avenue and Walnut Avenue

CARROLL PARK Carroll Park East, Carroll Park West, Carroll Park North, Junipero

Avenue and 3rd Street

DRAKE PARKLoma Vista Drive, Nylic Court, Crystal Court, and West 7th Street

HELLMAN STREET CRAFTSMAN

North side of 9th Street between Orange Avenue and Walnut Avenue; Hellman Street (from Orange Avenue-Walnut Avenue) including Toledo Walk to alley, both sides of Orange Avenue from 730 to 937; west side of Walnut Avenue between Hellman Street and

 9^{th} Street from 733 to 915 Hoffman Avenue (804-918).

LINDEN AVENUE Alley north of Anaheim to 14th Street, consisting of eight properties

(1324-1357 Linden Avenue)

LOWENA DRIVE 260, 280, 2202, 2220, 2230 Lowena Drive and 230 Junipero Avenue

MINERVA PARK

PLACE

1045-1085 Minerva Park Place and 1724 and 1746 East 11th Street

ROSE PARK East side of St. Louis, the alley north of 7th Street, Coronado and 10th

Street

SUNRISE BOULEVARD 2515-2596 Lime Avenue, 2444-2588 Olive Avenue, 638-836 Sunrise

Boulevard, 701-745 Vernon Street, and 804 East Willow Street

WILLMORE CITY Anaheim Street, 4th Street, Park Court and Virginia Court

WILTON STREET Wilton Street between Termino and Grand Avenues, numbers 3800-

3926; 1634 Grand and 1637 Termino

WRIGLEY 2008-2191 Eucalyptus Avenue, 439 West 20th Street, and 417 West

21st Street

Attachment G